

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A method for creating time-stamped frames sent between computers  
includes receiving and generating a universal coordinated time reference signal  
using a global positioning system. Clocks independent of operating systems of  
the sending and receiving computer are synchronized with the reference signal.  
A test frame is created including a tag having reserved fields for transmit and  
receive time stamps. The transmit time stamp is inserted into the reserved  
10 transmit time stamp field, without intervention of the sending computers central  
processing unit, that corresponds to the time on the synchronized clock at the  
instant the test frame is sent. The test frame having the transmit time stamp is  
received by the receiving computer, and a receive time stamp is inserted into the  
reserved receive time stamp field corresponding to the time on the synchronized  
15 clock of the receiving computer when the test frame was received.

0996430-12804  
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